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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/646,632	08/21/2003	J. Patrick Thompson	14917.0552US01	9779
27488	7590	12/27/2007		
MERCHANT & GOULD (MICROSOFT)			EXAMINER	
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MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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			12/27/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



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MAILED

DEC 7 2007

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

In re Application of:  
J. Patrick THOMPSON  
Appl. No.: 10/646,632  
Filed: August 21, 2003  
For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF A CORE SCHEMA FOR  
PROVIDING A TOP-LEVEL STRUCTURE FOR  
ORGANIZING UNITS OF INFORMATION  
MANAGEABLE BY A HARDWARE/SOFTWARE  
INTERFACE SYSTEM

DECISION ON PETITION  
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.59

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR § 1.59(b), filed on 11 December 2007, to expunge information submitted pursuant to MPEP § 724.05.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

Petitioner requests that the information submitted on 11 December 2007 be expunged from the record if found not to be important to a reasonable examiner in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent. The petition fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(g) has been paid.

The petition is premature because the application has not been allowed or abandoned. Accordingly, it is not appropriate to make a final determination of whether or not the material requested to be expunged is "material," with "materiality" being defined as any information which the examiner considers as being important to a determination of patentability of the claims. Thus, the petition to expunge must be dismissed at this time.

During prosecution on the merits, the examiner will determine whether or not the information submitted on 11 December 2007 is considered to be "material." Once prosecution on the merits is closed, applicant may re-submit a petition to expunge the information. No further fee is required for such a second submission of a petition under 37 CFR § 1.59 to expunge information. If the information is not considered by the examiner to be material, the information will be expunged from the application and may be returned to applicant.

Any inquiry concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned whose telephone number is (571) 272-3613.

Vincent N. Trans, SPRE/QAS  
Technology Center 2100  
Computer Architecture, Software, and  
Information Security